



Transmission Business Line (TBL)

Scheduling Automation Bulletin SAB005

E-Tag Validation, Version 5

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Effective: For all E-Tags received after 8:00 a.m. 6/15/2005

Comments: e-tag@bpa.gov

This revision (Version 5) provides information regarding a Suffix POR/POD Owner validation and updates all effective dates.

In our continuing effort to ensure compliance with Western Electricity Coordinating Council's (WECC) Reliability Management System (RMS) M.2.b.4 and M.2.b.5, and avoid sanctions that took effect in January 2005, TBL continues to focus on scheduling automation activities to ensure that all scheduled transactions with our control area have an E-Tag. This Scheduling Automation Bulletin describes TBL's implementation of automated approval for correctly authored on-time E-Tags and automated denial for E-Tags with authorship errors. Such actions will be based on previously specified E-Tag validation rules.

The purpose of this Bulletin is to help your organization understand in greater detail TBL's E-Tag validations to better support your ability to conduct transmission business with TBL. We will keep you informed about TBL's processes and procedures through bi-weekly customer conference calls, periodic descriptive postings, and in other forums as required. All customers are invited to raise questions, clarify procedures, and offer feedback on the bi-weekly calls through e-tag@bpa.gov or through your account executives. This ongoing communication is intended as an enhanced process to obtain your input as an alternative to the 15-day comment period that is used in TBL's business practice development.

E-Tag Validation

A first step after receipt of an E-Tag is validation of its data elements to assure that the E-Tag was authored correctly and that the Transmission Contract Holder (TCH) has the right to conduct business with TBL in the manner specified. TBL's validations include:

- Standard validation rules
- Schedule path validations
- Suffix validations
- Contract data validations

To improve internal business efficiencies, TBL has made an effort to automate as much of the E-Tag validation as possible and has made use of automatic tag approval and denial to the extent possible.

Validation Rules

The table below provides a detailed description of the validation rules and associated error messages (in quotes). TBL uses automated approval of correctly authored on-time E-Tags and automated denial of E-Tags that fail any of these validation rules in both Pre-Schedule and Real-Time. One exception to automated validation processing is that correctly authored late E-Tags (as defined by the WECC E-Tag timing specification and Appendix 3A1-Tag Submission and Response Timetables of NERC Policy 3) will continue to be handled manually. This is necessary to enable TBL to continue to allow the schedulers to approve or deny late E-Tags at their discretion. Starting June 15, 2005, a new validation will be enabled that allows TBL to validate, where applicable, that only certain POR-POD-Owners use a specific suffix (see below).

TBL Standard Validation Rules

Validation Criteria	Description	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
Energy Profile	This check examines the transmission MW profile of the E-Tag to ensure that it has sufficient capacity to cover the energy schedule MW profile.	"Energy profile is bad" - Transmission profile less than energy profile	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

Because the amount of characters allowed for an E-Tag validation error message is limited, the error messages (provided in quotes below) are cryptic. They can best be understood by adding the following context around them "This E-Tag had an invalid (fill in the portion of the error message that is NOT in parenthesis) for this (fill in the portion of the error message in parenthesis)." For example, the denial reason immediately below this paragraph for Scheduling Entity (SE) Usage can best be read as "This E-Tag had an invalid SE Usage for this path."

TBL Validation Rules For Schedule Path

Validation Criteria	Description of Schedule Path Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
Scheduling Entity (SE) Usage	For each occurrence of BPAT as a SE (Control Area) in a Transmission Physical Segment, verify that BPAT has not been referenced in a string containing other SEs.	"(Path) SE Usage" - BPAT must be only SE (CA) on physical segment	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

Validation Criteria	Description of Schedule Path Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
SE Adjacency	For each occurrence of BPAT as a SE, the upstream/downstream SE/GCA/LCA is verified to be adjacent to BPAT. A null adjacent SE is invalid.	"(Path) SE Adjacency" - Invalid adjacent control area	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
TP-SE Association	For each Physical Segment where BPAT is referenced as an SE or a TP, the SE and TP designated on that Physical Segment will be verified as a valid association, including associated POR/POD path for that TP.	"(Path) TP-SE Association" - Invalid path for TP in BPAT CA	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
POR/POD to SE Adjacency	Where BPAT is the SE, the POR/POD on the Physical Segment will be verified as being valid for the adjacent upstream/downstream SE (or GCA/LCA).	"(Path) POR/POD to SE Adjacency" - Invalid POR/POD for Adjacent SE	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
POR/POD to Source Sink	Where BPAT is the GCA/LCA, verify that the POR is valid for the Source and/or the POD is valid for the Sink. A null Source or Sink in the E-Tag is considered an error.	"(Path) POR/POD to Source/Sink" - Invalid POR/POD for BPAT Source/Sink	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

TBL Validation Rules For Suffixes

Validation Criteria	Description Suffix Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
Suffix	The Contract Number suffix, where required, associated with any BPAT transmission service will be verified against the list of valid suffix codes. The remaining suffix validations are not performed if this step fails.	"(Suffix) Invalid Code" - Invalid OASIS/Contract Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
Agreement Type for Suffix	Determine whether the reference in the OASIS/Contract field is an AREF or BPAT contract & determine whether the suffix is valid for that reference type (AREF or Contract).	"(Suffix) Agreement Type" - Invalid use of AREF or Contract for Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
NERC Priority for Suffix	Verifies that the NERC Priority on the E-Tag is valid for the suffix referenced.	"(Suffix) NERC Priority" - Invalid NERC Priority for Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
Service Type for Suffix	Verifies that the Contract Type of the underlying and supporting contract (as directly referenced in the Contract Number field or from the OASIS reservation if the E-Tag Contract Number is an AREF) is valid for the suffix referenced.	"(Suffix) Service Type" - Invalid Contract/Service Type for Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
Source for Suffix	Where BPAT is the GCA, verifies that the Source listed in the E-Tag is valid for the Suffix.	"(Suffix) Source" - Invalid BPAT Source for Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

Validation Criteria	Description Suffix Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
Sink for Suffix	Where BPAT is the LCA, verifies that the Sink listed in the E-Tag is valid for the Suffix.	"(Suffix) Sink" - Invalid BPAT Sink for Suffix	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
POR/POD Owner for Suffix	Verifies that the POR, POD and Owner are valid for the suffix referenced.	"(Suffix) POR/POD Owner"	This is new validation effective June 15, 2005. Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation will begin June 15, 2005.

TBL Validation Rules For Contracts

Validation Criteria	Description of Contract Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
Contract #	Verifies that the contract number referenced in the OASIS/Contract # field of the E-Tag is a valid BPAT transmission contract.	"(Contract) Invalid Contract/AREF #" - Invalid BPAT contract number or AREF	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
Customer for Contract	Verifies that the TC Owner on the Transmission Allocation of the E-Tag matches the TC (TCH) for the contract.	"(Contract) Customer PSE Code" - Invalid customer for contract	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

Validation Criteria	Description of Contract Validation	Denial Reason	Validation Status?
NERC Priority for Contract	Verifies that the NERC Priority specified in the E-Tag is valid for the Contract or Reservation specified, e.g., 7-F, 2-NH, 6-NN.	"(Contract) NERC Priority" - Invalid NERC priority for contract	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.
POR/POD for Contract	Verifies that the POR/POD referenced on the E-Tag is valid for the supporting contract, for the E-Tag TC Owner, and for the period of flow (from OASIS reservations or from BPAT contract data).	"(Contract) POR/POD, Start/Stop" - Invalid POR/POD rights for contract	Automated denial for all tags failing validation. Automated approval for all on time tags passing validation and manual approval/denial for late tags passing validation.

Changes to Validation Rules

TBL retains the right to change these settings without notice as our business needs require. However, should such need arise, the change will be posted as soon as possible.

Over time, TBL may find that additional validation rules are needed or that changes are warranted. If that occurs, TBL will further update this posting to reflect those actions. For additional information, send your questions to etags@bpa.gov or contact your Transmission Account Executive.